Today's News - January 4, 2005

A gala celebration coming up for the Aga Khan, recipient of 5th Vincent Scully Prize. -- A San Francisco preview of the new year. -- International museums vie in a "Pepsi vs. Coke" battle for new Hong Kong arts complex. -- Not everyone is pleased with plans for Philadelphia's tallest tower. -- Germany's new "pleasure dome" a tropical retreat. -- Good design and green profile of newest prefab offerings. -- A tribute to Claude Oakland, Eichler architect for the masses. -- Basil Spence archives find a new home. -- Two German architects leave their mark on Nepal and China. -- An African architect comes to the aid of a school for AIDS orphans. -- A modern maven of corporate design.

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His Highness The Aga Khan to receive National Building Museum 5th Vincent Scully Prize January 25- National Building Museum

2005 Forecast: Urban Landscape. By John King - Libeskind; Legorreta; Lawrence Halprin; Craig HartmanSkidmore, Owings & Merrill; Richard Meier; Herzog + de Meuron- San Francisco Chronicle

Arts Project Provokes Hong Kong Uproar: ...cultural complex several times the size of Lincoln Center...prompting a free-for-all among major American and European museums... - Norman Foster; Leslie E. Robertson- New York Times

Comcast reveals its plans for Philadelphia headquarters: Controversial [57-story, $435 million] new skyscraper will be the city's tallest. - Robert A.M. Stern- The Morning Call (Pennsylvania)

Welcome to the Pleasure Dome: An ex-zepellin hangar 1 hour drive from Berlin has been refitted as Europe's largest leisure resort. [images, links]- Archinect

NOWHouse from Clever Homes: integration of good design, good materials...and good value...combined with "green" notions of environmental responsibility... - Toby Long AIA [images, interview]- fabprefab

Signature Style: Claude Oakland: Modern homes for the masses...the most prolific architect for mass builder Joseph Eichler - Anshen + Allen; Jones & Emmons [images]- San Francisco Chronicle

Legacy of people's architect is placed in Scottish hands: ...arguably the most exciting 20th-century architectural archive to be acquired by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland in recent times... - Sir Basil Spence- The Scotsman (UK)

"The Government Needs Support Of [Nepalese] Middle Class (For Heritage Preservation)" - Niels Gutsttow- Nepal News

Architect of Modern China Turns 70: Star architect Meinhard von Gerkan has left his stamp all over Germany, but as he celebrated his 70th birthday on Jan. 3, he was most feted for his work as the architect of modern China. - Von Gerkan, Marg, and Partners [images]- Deutsche Welle (Germany)

Top Architect Aids School Appeal: One of Africa's leading architects is donating his services free to a Scarborough businesswoman's appeal to rebuild a rundown school for Aids orphans in Kenya. - Abdul Haq A Khandwalla- Yorkshire Post Today (UK)

The modern maven of corporate design: A one-time architect made major contributions to the concept of office furnishings. - Florence Knoll Bassett- Miami Herald

-- Richard Meier: Jesolo Lido Village, Jesolo Lido, Italy
-- Rojkind Arquitectos: casa pR34, Tecamachalco, Mexico
-- Travel: Design Hotel, Great Eastern Hotel, London
-- Book: Eating Architecture, Edited by Jamie Horwitz & Paulette Singley

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